

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 04685 01 OF 02 241153Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
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R 231541Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3221
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY LOSBON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 THE HAGUE 4685

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR NL RO
SUBJECT: DUTCH-ROMANIAN RELATIONS

SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH FOREIGN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
NETHERLANDS AND THE SOVIET UNION ARE CURRENTLY UNDERGOING
SOME STRAIN BECAUSE OF THE RECENT DISSIDENTS' TRIALS,
RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA ARE IN RELATIVELY GOOD SHAPE.
A PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR ON THE
OCCASION OF HIS NATIONAL DAY LISTED THE CURRENT SERIES
OF VISITS, EXCHANGES AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO
COUNTRIES. THESE INCLUDE A VISIT TO ROMANIA BY FINANCE
MINISTER ANDRIESEN NEXT MONTH AND BY FOREIGN MINISTER
VAN DER KLAUW EARLY NEXT YEAR. END SUMMARY.
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PAGE 02 THE HA 04685 01 OF 02 241153Z

2. ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR TRAIAN POP HELD A POORLY
ATTENDED PRESS CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 18 AND REVIEWED
RELATIONS BETWEEN HIS COUNTRY AND THE NETHERLANDS.
IN HIS REMARKS, THE AMBASSADOR LISTED THE BILATERAL EVENTS
WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. WE
DISCUSSED THE INFORMATION DISSEMINATED BY THE AMBASSADOR

WITH THE EASTERN EUROPE SECTION OF THE MFA WHICH CONFIRMED AND IN SOME CASES CORRECTED THE POINTS MADE BY THE AMBASSADOR. A SURVEY OF THOSE POINTS PROVIDES A GOOD CHECKLIST OF THE CURRENT STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO STATES.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DER KLAUW IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT BUCHAREST NEXT SPRING. THE DUTCH HAVE SUGGESTED MARCH, WHEN VAN DER KLAUW WOULD ALSO BE VISITING BULGARIA, BUT THE ROMANIANS HAVE NOT YET CONFIRMED THAT DATE. VAN DER KLAUW'S VISIT WILL BE IN RETURN FOR THE VISIT TO THE NETHERLANDS BY THEN-FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU IN FEBRUARY 1976.

4. FINANCE MINISTER ANDRIESSEN WILL VISIT ROMANIA FROM SEPTEMBER 9 TO 14. ANDRIESSEN IS ACCEPTING AN INVITATION WHICH WAS EXTENDED TO HIS PREDECESSOR DUSENBERG SEVERAL YEARS AGO. DUSENBERG WAS UNABLE TO VISIT IN 1976, WAS PREVENTED FROM GOING BY THE GOVERNMENT FORMATION EFFORTS IN 1977, AND SUBSEQUENTLY FOUND HIMSELF NO LONGER IN THE GOVERNMENT. THE INVITATION, ACCORDING TO THE MFA, ARISES FROM ROMANIAN-DUTCH CONTACTS IN THE IMF.

5. A DELEGATION OF THE FIVE TOP LEADERS OF THE CDA (CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC APPEAL) WILL VISIT ROMANIA FROM AUGUST 28 TO SEPTEMBER 14. IT IS THE FIRST VISIT BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 THE HA 04685 01 OF 02 241153Z

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC POLITICIANS FROM THE NETHERLANDS TO ROMANIA. THE MFA REGARDS THIS AS A POLITICALLY IMPORTANT VISIT BECAUSE OF ITS LENGTH, BECAUSE THE GROUP WILL BE OFFICIALLY HOSTED BY THE ROMANIAN GOVERNMENT, AND BECAUSE OF THE PROMINENCE OF THE DUTCH POLITICIANS. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT A DELEGATION FROM THE SMALL (THREE SEATS IN PARLIAMENT) RADICALS PARTY (PPR) ALSO PLANS A VISIT THIS FALL.

6. ON SEPTEMBER 20 AND 21 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WILL MEET IN THE HAGUE FOR WHAT HAS ALMOST BECOME AN ANNUAL MEETING TO DISCUSS BILATERAL ISSUES AND SUBJECTS OF GENERAL INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE. THE DELEGATIONS WILL BE HEADED BY DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS RUTTEN ON THE DUTCH SIDE AND VICE MINISTER GLICKA FOR THE ROMANIANS. PREVIOUS MEETINGS OF THIS SORT WERE HELD IN 1968, 1969, 1971, 1972 AND 1974. MEETINGS HAVE NOT BEEN HELD IN YEARS WHEN THERE WERE OFFICIAL OR STATE VISITS - PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU VISITED THE NETHERLANDS IN 1973, QUEEN JULIANA VISITED ROMANIA IN 1975, AND FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU WAS HERE IN 1976; THERE WAS NO VISIT LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF THE PROTRACTED GOVERNMENT FORMATION

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PAGE 01 THE HA 04685 02 OF 02 241016Z
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 THE HAGUE 4685

NEGOTIATIONS HERE. MFA OFFICERS HAVE POINTED OUT TO US THAT
SIMILAR MEETINGS ARE HELD WITH THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS,
ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE NOT BEEN AS FREQUENT OR AS WELL ORGANIZED.

7. THE TWO COUNTRIES ALSO HAVE A RATHER FULL SCHEDULE OF
CULTURAL EXCHANGES. THIS FALL WILL SEE THE FIRST
PERFORMANCE OF A JOINT DUTCH-ROMANIAN FILM DOCUMENTARY ABOUT
THE RHINE AND DANUBE DELTAS. THERE WILL BE A NUMBER OF
ROMANIAN MUSICAL EVENTS IN THE NETHERLANDS THIS FALL AND AN
EXHIBITION OF ROMANIAN ARCHAEOLOGY WILL BE OPENED AT THE
END OF THE YEAR.

8. AMBASSADOR POP DREW ATTENTION TO THE GROWING TRADE BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES, WHICH LAST YEAR INCREASED BY NEARLY
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PAGE 02 THE HA 04685 02 OF 02 241016Z

12 PERCENT. THIS TRADE IS UNDER THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK OF AN AGREEMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL, ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION, UNDER THE TERMS OF WHICH A MIXED DUTCH-ROMANIAN COMMISSION WILL MEET IN BUCHAREST ON SEPTEMBER 18 TO REVIEW PAST COOPERATION AND TO DISCUSS FUTURE OBJECTIVES.

9. MFA OFFICERS COMMENTED SOMEWHAT DEFENSIVELY THAT THE RATHER EXTENSIVE LIST OF CONTACTS OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS IS A LITTLE MISLEADING BECAUSE THERE ARE FEW TIES BEYOND THESE OFFICIAL, CULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL LINKS. ROMANIAN RELATIONS WITH THE NETHERLANDS, WHILE GOOD, SHOULD BE SEEN WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF EFFORTS BY THE ROMANIANS TO EXPRESS THEIR CONTINUING INDEPENDENCE WITHIN THE EASTERN BLOCK. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED, THEY SAID, THAT THE ROMANIANS HAVE FOLLOWED A PATTERN OF SEEKING AN EXCHANGE OF VISITS WITH A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES. FOR EXAMPLE, DUTCH INFORMATION IS THAT ROMANIA IS PRESENTLY ARRANGING A HIGH LEVEL VISIT FROM PORTUGAL AND PRESENT INDICATIONS ARE THAT PRESIDENT EANES MAY GO TO BUCHAREST. JOSEPH

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